

bipartisan leadership which this committee certainly has in promoting benefits and the best interests of especially the disabled veteran. But I also want to commend you on your general remarks in regard to the problems of law and order in our society. Our headlines are so monopolized by the colorful account of disruption, violence, and dissent which negatively influence the youth of our country and, unfortunately, some of the adults as well. It is extremely important for all of us to exercise leadership in preserving legitimate functions of law and order. This is something that will not receive the same press coverage, unfortunately, but is vitally needed in our society today.

I want to express my appreciation at your commenting on the general atmosphere in our country and my sincere hope that this organization in every State in the country will go out and make the same statements over and over again. The right to dissent does not include the right to destroy society. [Applause.]

If we pursue the course which, unfortunately, is so heavily publicized in this country, America will not be the land that our forefathers fought for and our fathers, and that you indeed suffered your disabilities for. This we must prevent at all costs.

So I salute you, encourage you, and shall join with you in a very worthy pursuit of the goals of your organization. [Applause.]

Mr. BEATON. Thank you.

Mr. TEAGUE of Texas. And last but not least, Mr. Bryan Dorn. [Applause.]

Mr. DORN. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

I want to welcome you, of course, to the committee—not only to the committee but to Washington—Mr. Commander, and your commander of the auxiliary, too, who is with us from all the way across the country. We are delighted to have you. I want to commend you on your distinguished Congressman here who represents the kind of philosophy that you enunciated in your statement. I enjoyed the convention so much in Denver. I never attended a finer convention anywhere of any kind.

Of course, we are grateful to Chet Huber for all of the arrangements and for the fine job he is doing here, and also to the Cincinnati office. You have a fine staff there.

I am glad that Commander Claude Callegory is serving on the Veterans' Advisory Commission. I think you are well represented all the way around.

I did want to commend you for this timely and outstanding statement. I believe our distinguished chairman of this committee is going to place it in the Congressional Record. I have never seen a statement made before this committee more worthy of the Congressional Record. I want to tell you and your men gathered here and the ladies of the auxiliary that you are certainly meeting in Washington at the right time because today we have, as you know, the demonstrators here again protesting what they call American crimes, escalation of the war in South Vietnam. They are at the wrong place at the wrong time. If they want to point to an aggressor and to war crimes, they ought to be pointing the finger at Hanoi and Peking and not here in Washington. [Applause.]

Thank you, Commander Beaton.

Mr. BEATON. Thank you, Congressman Dorn. [Applause.]